

1                                   **City of Lake Forest Park – Tree Board Meeting**  
2                                   **Normal Meeting Minutes: January 4th, 2023; 7:00-9:00pm**  
3                                   **Hybrid Meeting Held in the Forest Room at City Hall and Virtually via Zoom**  
4

5 **Tree Board Members present:** Marty Byrne, Chair Richard Olmstead, Mandee Parker, Julia Bent  
6

7 **Staff and others present:** Riley Bushnell, Assistant Planner; Councilmember Larry Goldman  
8

9 **Members of the Public present:** John Brew, Vicki Scuri, Randi Sibonga  
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11 **Tree Board Members absent:** Doug Sprougel, Sandy Levar  
12

13 **Call to order:** 7:03 PM  
14

15 **Short Reflections:** None.  
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18 **Introductions:** The Tree Board members and City staff introduced themselves.  
19

20 **Approval of Meeting Agenda:** Chair Olmstead discussed order of agenda, Ms. Parker motioned to  
21 approved agenda, Ms. Byrne seconded. Motion passed.  
22

23 **Approval of Minutes:** Ms. Parker motioned to approved the agenda, Ms. Bent seconded.  
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26 **Public Comment:** John Brew spoke out about the Sound Transit Bus Rapid Transit Corridor  
27 (BRT) development. He highlighted more than 700 trees were inventoried in their review of trees  
28 along the corridor. He stated many significant and landmark trees were to be removed. He was  
29 concerned the temporary easements used to expand the bus route are going to be a clear cut. He was  
30 wondering if there's plans to replace said trees. He questioned what is interpretation of trees in the  
31 right of way. Chair Olmstead and John Brew discussed the implications of removing trees in the  
32 easements. John Brew said it's not clear what the replacement plan is and wants the tree board to  
33 discuss this further.  
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35 Vicki Scuri discussed the wall that would go into place per plans she presented in a picture provided  
36 from Sound Transit marketing materials. She said the original BRT design never used to imply tree  
37 removal and that it's a great oversight that tree removal was never flagged as a concern. She claims  
38 the tree removal is backwards thinking in terms of climate change and said it could lead to adverse  
39 living conditions.

40 John Brew iterated he supports the BRT project, he just wants smart design and mitigation for trees.  
41

42 Vicki Scuri added only two minutes of time is saved for transit by the BRT.  
43

44 Randi Sibonga mentioned Sound Transit's tree removal plans at 60% design for the BRT. Randi  
45 claims it is a massive taking and how it could impact gateway to Lake Forest Park on 522. Randi  
46 wants a canopy study and asked for some clarity on the replacement of right of way trees.  
47

48 **Communication:**

1 Next Meeting

2 Chair Olmstead spoke to the next meeting taking place on Wednesday, March 1<sup>st</sup> at city hall.

4 Announcements

5 None.

8 **Old Business:**

9 McAleer Creek Restoration – Julia

10 Julia spent this time to look back on her time on the tree board. She iterated that the east side of  
11 Bothell Way across from the town center, by the architect's office, some cedar trees were planted  
12 there replacing a whole row of poplars because they were endangering electric lines. She mentioned  
13 carrying water to cedar trees when they were young and since they've since grown twice as big. She  
14 talked about this planting being of the tree board's influence.

15  
16 She told of her project in McAleer Creek working with the Dept of Ecology removing invasive  
17 species and planting 35 cedars and bare roots and herbs. She mentioned the extension she was given  
18 to use all the grant money. Since she was given the extension, they placed Spruce trees with chicken  
19 wire to abate beavers. She says this project is nearly completed and she'll do a final report on it to  
20 the tree board when its officially done. She hopes the tree board will keep in mind that these  
21 restoration efforts aren't effective without maintenance. Julia requested a professional crew to go in  
22 and hand weed the creek to rid it of invasive species to maintain its current state. She mentioned this  
23 is the last meeting for her and she is retiring.

25 2023 Work Plan

26 Ms. Byrne motioned to adopt the work plan, Ms. Parker seconded.

28 Public Outreach Plan

29 Chari Olmstead introduced the customer information bulletin on the Champion Tree Care website.  
30 He said it was a better, more concise summary for restrictions on our tree permits.

31  
32 Councilmember Goldman brought up the council's discussion on ST3. He mentioned that it's time  
33 sensitive to get recommendations for certain portions of the ST3 project. Goldman and Chair  
34 Olmstead discussed options for designs of walls.

36 **New Business:**

37 2022 Annual Report

38 Chair Olmstead outlined the annual report. He discussed the durations of terms of members. He  
39 outlined the adoption of ordinances of council and tree inventory data gathering that's underway.  
40 He mentioned being active in the e-news. All of this was gathered in the report.

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42 Ms. Parker motioned to adopt the annual report. Ms. Byrne seconded.

43  
44 On the topic of duration of terms, Chair Olmstead brought up the need for a vice chair and how the  
45 board should potentially rotate into chair and vice chair. He brought up the need for new members  
46 as well.

48 **Reports and Announcements:**

1 Frontlines

2 The City Arborist provided a report of permits submitted within the last month. She let the board  
3 know that eight new tree permits were filed in the month of January. She spoke to her permit  
4 submittals that were provided in a report to the board.

5  
6 Councilmember Goldman's Report

7 Councilmember Goldman brought up how nearly every board is short of members. He brought up  
8 how there's a roundabout to go in on Ballinger Way & 40<sup>th</sup> and that some trees will be impacted on  
9 the construction. He's saying there's about 30-60% design. According to his report, 3-4 dozen trees  
10 are estimated to be removed in the project.

11  
12 He also brought up Bill 1078 which states cities cannot have a tree ordinance that require  
13 replacement and that cities must have tree bank plan. This would neuter requirement to replace trees  
14 on the parcel if removed. He then brought up recommendations that might be added to the bill.

15  
16 Preliminary discussion about 2022 Tree Inventory Data

17 None.

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19 **Agenda for Next Meeting:**

20 Potential items for the agenda were discussed for next meeting.

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23 **Adjournment:** Ms. Parker moved to adjourn. Ms. Byrne seconded; and the meeting adjourned at  
24 8:11 PM.

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27 APPROVED:

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30 Richard Olmstead, Chair